



# WOKINGHAM & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Helping honeybees & beekeepers since 1946



website:  
www.wdbka.org.uk  
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*Bee-news-ed*

W&DBKA Newsletter

2019 Issue 11, December

(To contact the editor please e-mail [wokinghambeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:wokinghambeekeepers@gmail.com) )

## *Committee Meetings*

The committee met on Tuesday 03 December. There is not a committee meeting in January and the next meeting will be on Tuesday 04 February 2020.

## *Annual Christmas Social Report*

This took place on Wednesday 11 December. The evening was an enjoyable evening despite a relatively low attendance. John was quizmaster for the evening, which he presented in three sections - the first section involved the teams identifying parts of logos from products and UK organisations. The rest of the quiz was split into two parts - both Christmas based including naming Santa's eight reindeer, calculating how many gifts were given in the song 12 Days of Christmas and the most used phrases on Christmas gift cards.

We also had the traditional Christmas raffle, which included the legendary ducks eagerly sought each year by our treasurer.

## *Recent Activity at the Apiary*

Members John Waddelove, Nigel Perkins, Sam Milligan and Evan Reynolds treated the colonies for varroa with oxalic acid on Saturday 14 December. Feed stores were also checked and those colonies that need it were given more fondant.

We appear to still have eight viable colonies going into the winter - one of which is in a nucleus box.

## *Next Bowls Club Meeting is on Wednesday 08 January*

The programme for the evening is as follows:

- 7pm - a skep talk by Vice-Chair Kevin Cowley. The topic is: "Tools and Accessories", which should be of special interest to those still learning the art of beekeeping or any who want to hear about Kevin's approach to the art.
- 8pm - the guest speaker is Margaret Murdin (current President of the BBKA) who will be giving a talk on "Honey and Honey Processing"
- 9.15pm (approximately) - the customary raffle. All donations gratefully accepted - no need to gift-wrap them.

## *An Offer to Keep Bees at the Lexicon, Bracknell*

We have been contacted by the Lexicon's Operations Manager who says:

"I have been asked to investigate further the opportunity to keep bees at the Lexicon, Bracknell, as part of a sustainability project we are looking to create a pollinator garden on an area of vacant roof space."

He would like to hear from anyone who is interested in getting involved and /or someone who can advise him.

If you are interested please contact the Operations Manager, Marek Bryant.

Email: [marek.bryant@thelexiconbracknell.com](mailto:marek.bryant@thelexiconbracknell.com)



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## *Hive Equipment Clean-up Saturday 04 January*

As outlined in the last newsletter the annual clean up will start at 09.30am. We are still looking for volunteers to give a helping hand - even if you can only attend for part of the time.

Please email us on our Gmail account (see start of newsletter). Alternatively use the website contact form to let us know. Make your communications for the attention of the Apiary Manager, Tony Lack.

Equipment to bring (if you have them) are: a Black & Decker Workmate (or similar), a large seed tray (to collect scrapings of excess wax etc) and a hive tool. Optional contributions: biscuits, cake, your preferred snacks or milk.

## *Skittles Evening 29 January*

This is the last call for those interested in coming to a social event at the Jack O' Newbury, Binfield where there is a skittle alley. <http://www.jackonewbury.co.uk/>  
Please contact us if you are interested - at the moment we have not had enough interest for the event to go ahead.

## *...And Finally...*

The Wokingham Winter Carnival raised £954 (after expenses) to go into the Associations coffers. This was perhaps our most successful sale of honey, boosted by sales of Mary's mince pies and mulled wine (with honey).

## *Post Script*

Happy Christmas